

Riverpath

Newsletter
of
PhilANOR

Vol 2 ISSUE 2



EOSTAR Greetings

The year stands at a balance point: the hours of light and the hours of darkness are very close to equal. For those of us who do not have enough hours in the day to complete all of our projects and labors, Mother will soon be blessing us with an abundance of sunny afternoons and warm lit evenings. This however does not necessarily mean that more work will get accomplished. In my case it means that I will spend ever more hours in my garden and ever more minutes of guilt as papers fall behind schedule, the dust kitties beneath the beds grow into dust tigers and my husband says "Spaghetti, AGAIN?!"

Some things which will claim a share of my time this spring and summer are the pagan meetings and festivals. Pagan festivals are great places to network, learn, grow and have a good time. The local PhilANOR meetings, although not in the same category as the festivals, will also provide you with opportunities to meet new faces, re-aquaint yourself with old friends, and get a fore-sight into what will be going on in the area during the year. I hope to see you at both the festivals and the PhilANOR meetings.

Now for some corrections.

KAY Gardner will be presenting her magical music at Delaware Community College just outside Media on April 15th at 8:00pm.

COG's annual convention will not be at "Rites". There will be a REGIONAL COG meeting.

Tea Tepea spells her name thusly: Tea Tepea. "p" is pronounced "th" in Erse.

So twenty lashes with a twenty minute vermicelli to yours truly. I shall do better this issue, I hope.

MR.

Comments on the Networking Issue.

I was amazed at the number of networking replies which wanted to get the list but didn't bother to be listed. As a result, for every five people who wanted to get the list I received one listing. (Not counting Coven listings.) I must admit that this was not what I had thought would happen. Also, it prevents the Newsletter from performing its function: getting people together. I have two choices. I can send out the networking sheets again in hopes that more people will send back replies OR I can list everyone who is a subscriber UNLESS I am informed not to list a particular name. How do you feel? Perhaps you had thought about being listed and just didn't know what to say. I will be more than glad to help you devise an entry. Send me your phone # and I'll give you a call. In any event, the next deadline for networking is July 10.

First Annual PhilANOR Meeting to be Held April 15.

This is a very important meeting and I am urging each and everyone of you to attend. We will be electing co-presidents and confirming the elections of both the secretary and the treasurer.

The big item on the agenda will be the reading of the proposed by-laws. The by-laws will not be voted on that night. Instead, everyone who pays their dues, either in person or by mail, will receive a vote form with a brief explanation of the measures. That way you may listen and consider, take the form home and, after due consideration, vote either yea or nay. This way no one is rushed into voting on a set of agreements which will be the context within which PhilANOR carries out its purposes.

The purposes of PhilANOR:

We will discuss that in some detail on the 15th. A network is only as strong as the individual units which constitute the structure. If PhilANOR is a net or web, then each one of you is a filament. This is YOUR organization, I hope that each of you will come prepared to discuss and work for YOUR dreams. Perhaps you want to see a festival like "Rites" or "Starwood" in the Philly area; perhaps you dream of regular 'open' rituals so that you and your friends can celebrate with others, even if you don't want to belong to a structured organization like a coven. Maybe a legal umbrella organization like COG (Covenant of the Goddess) is what you long to see in our area or perhaps you really want an organization which is active in sponsoring Pagan artists, stores and crafts. What ever your

dream may be, I and the rest of the charter members want you to come and tell us. Come and BE one of us. Help make your dreams and my dreams for PhilANOR come true.

Money:

Every organization must sooner or later deal with the word: money. It takes money to send out flyers and to print posters. It takes money to set up festivals. Therefore after much backing and forthing the following dues structure was suggested: \$15:00 per person which includes a year's subscription to RiverPath. If two people live together there is usually no reason to have two newsletters going to the same mailing address, therefore one of the couple may elect to not receive the RiverPath and her-his dues will be nine dollars a year. Of course you can subscribe to RiverPath without being a member of PhilANOR which makes sense for those of you who live in Massachusetts and Kentucky. If you want to be a member and can't come to the meeting, send your check or money order made out to PhilANOR to Lady Epona, #322, Trumbauersville, PA. 18970. If you are able to attend the meeting, we will take your cash, check or money order. Since we are a Pagan organization, we do operate from trust. If you truly are unable to afford the \$15 bucks, pay what you can afford. We know and you know that Goddess will never be cheated.

What do you get for your 15 hard earned dollars? We intend that every member of PhilANOR will receive reduced rates at all PhilANOR functions. You

will also avoid any increase in the price of RiverPath. But most importantly, you will be building the economic basis of having your dreams come true.

Example: If we can get enough people committed, PhilANOR will have several open rituals throughout the year. These will probably need to be held in some private structure or safe area. Unfortunately, it is not safe to have really meaningful rituals in public parks. There is simply too much that can interfere with effective power raising and magick workings. Very few of us can accommodate more than 12 to 15 people in our houses, apartments or yards, and even in some of the bigger homes, the space is laid out so that effective circles are difficult if not impossible. This means that we most likely will need to rent space from organizations such as the Unitarian Church or the VFW. And that will cost money.

I am adamantly against anyone making a profit on Goddess. But I am also realistic enough to know that no person or group can afford to "gift" the rest of us. One generous pagan-spirit from upstate recently offered her place as a free and safe outside site for a two day festival/ritual. Free until I pointed out to her that she would have to rent at least two porta-potties to prevent her septic system from overloading and polluting the environment. Porta-potties cost \$55 each per day. All of a sudden she was talking \$220 for a two day festival at her 'free' space. Then I reminded her that most Pagans require their morning shower. The cost of providing a portable shower that can handle 10 people with warmish water is about 75 dollars a day. Cooking facilities

for people had to be considered, her kitchen stove would not be adequate nor would her refrigerator store enough cold food. Even if everyone brought coolers, some food stuffs must be frozen. Parking facilities had to be considered (re-graveling her drive so that no one had to be towed out of the mud, etc.) and sleeping arrangements for people who would show up without tents, tents without stakes and stakes without tents. 'Free' started to look as though it might empty her pocket book.

Finally, there is insurance. NO competent and responsible person is going to hold an open ritual without an insurance binder. Organizations like churches and the VFW have them built into the rate structure.

When I pointed out that an insurance binder for two days would probably cost her 150 bucks (or more) and that her renter's household insurance was woefully inadequate, she conceded that her 'free' space was no longer free. In fact it would probably cost 20 dollars per person for the two days, if 50 people showed up. Fifty paying people. Just to cover costs; no money into the pot for future events. Now, this is not outrageous. In fact it is such a good deal that I am considering suggesting that PhilANOR look into the site. But it certainly isn't free.

Therefore ...

As a PhilANOR member you would not only get to attend the ritual at a reduced rate, but your dues, used as start up money, would make the festival possible in the first place.

I could give you other examples but I think you get the idea. But we certainly need more than your money; We need you

(continued page 4)

PhilANOR cont...

(the warm body) AND we need your ideas and concerns.

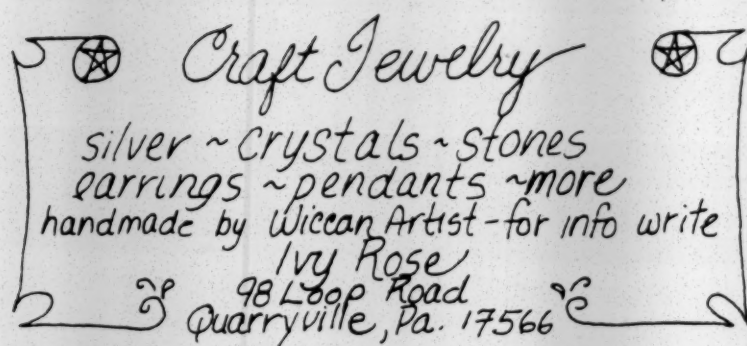
Lady Epona and SilverMist Coven are guesting the rest of us and have planned a web weaving ritual. A pot luck feast will follow. Rides should be available from Philly and other outlying areas. If you can offer a ride, or need a ride please call the PhilANOR answering machine at (215) 536-3073. We promise that someone, and a real live human at that, will get back to you.

Be sure to bring something to share and everyone is aware that the rules concerning illegal substances and alcohol apply.

Last and probably least, you will get to meet me face to face and tell me what you think. I am looking forward to meeting you, so please do come. *If you plan to come for sure, give the answering machine a call and let me know. Thanks!



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PAGAN PLACES

The Hand of Aries, just off South Street at 620 S. Fourth in Philly may be small, but every item within is so carefully chosen, so meticulously considered and properly displayed that one leaves with an impression of having been inside a jewel box, or the djinn's lamp.

And a truly magickal place it is. The oils, incense and herbs are fresh and potent. The candles are vibrantly colored and free from dust. The crystals and scrying balls are fascinating, luring even the casual eye to look closer, probe deeper, become lost within their depths ...

The books are selected for the well-dressed mind and the jewelry is exquisite.

Perhaps the real gem among all those jewels, however, is the proprietor. Ann is knowledgeable and approachable. If you need 'something' but are not quite sure just what that 'something' might be, she is open to listen and advise. She can help you choose an incense or a crystal or she can steer you to the correct publication.

Amid the popular consumerism that runs rampant on South Street, the few steps down Fourth are a few steps worth taking.

Hours:

Noon to 6pm, Tues-Sat.

Until 9pm on Fri.

Cash or Personal Check



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NEW AND IMPROVED CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- April 1. Workshops and Rituals at Shamanic Child in NY
NY Open Center, 83 Spring St, New York, NY 10012
- April 2. EDST begins. Spring forward one hour.
- April 5. Dark of the Moon
- April 7. Reclaim Nevada Nuke test site. Opportunity for
meditation work for Philly area Pagans.
- April 12. Maiden Moon, Quarter-Moon waxing.
- April 15. PhilANOR General meeting. 7:00 pm.
622-1214/349-9681 or 536-3073
- April 20. Mother Moon, full. Lunar Beltaine.
- April 22. Goddess Seminar at the DCWC Annual Symposium and
Convention. Media, PA (215) 565-5615
- April 28. Crone Moon, Quarter-Moon Waning.
- April 30. Beltaine Eve. (Solar reckoning)
- May 1. Beltaine (Solar reckoning)
- May 5. Dark of the Moon
- May 12. Maiden Moon
- May 19. Womyn-Only Gathering with Z. Budapest, Diane
Stein ect.
R.R.B. Box 185, Franklinville, NJ. 08322
- May 20. Mother Moon
- May 21. Deadline for Submissions to the forthcoming
RiverPath.
- May 23. Rites of Spring in western Massachusettes begins.
Contact: EarthSpirit Community
PO Box 365
Medford, Mass. 02155 (617) 395-1023
- May 27. Crone Moon
- June 3. Dark Moon
- June 11. Maiden Moon, Odunde Festival, 23rd and South
Philadelphia, Public Festival.
- June 15-18. Free Spirit Festival "Sharing the Abundance"
FSA, PO Box 5358, Laurel, MD. 20707
- June 16-18. Medicine Wheel Gathering, Native Earth
Religions, \$155 +lodging (includes 6 meals)
M.W.G. PO box 5719, Takoma Park, MD 20912
(301)270-6909
- June 19. Mother Moon
- June 21. Litha
- June 26. Crone Moon.

For complete listings of all festivals, seminars, meetings etc. of interest ANY where, I suggest you contact Larry Cornett, 9527 Blake Lane, Apt 102, Fairfax, VA 22031. For \$4.00 per year Larry will send a complete and regularly updated calander of all pagan and related events. I do mean complete. Larry includes meetings and festivals from throughout the USA, England and Canada. I am certain if something Pagan was going on in Upper Slobovia, Larry would know about it and print it in his calendar. I only include items which are reasonably accessable to Philly area people or are so big, special and/or important as to make the drive worth while.

As you are aware, RiverPath's purpose is not to print poetry, rituals, herbal/craft lore etc. There are several fine publications which already fill that niche and do it very well indeed. The purpose of RiverPath is to provide a forum for networkings, news and opinions. But to submit anything, you need to know the publication deadline.

I publish RiverPath on a pagan schedule. I want the newsletter in your hands BEFORE the major Sabbats and feasts rather than afterwards, however. Notices of coming events are of little use if they arrive one or two days before the date or worse, one or two days after the date. Although this schedule does not print an issue exactly every other month, I think it does a better job of letting you know what happens when.

Issue	Pub. date	Submission deadline
Pre-Samhain	Oct. 1	Sept. 21.
Pre-Yule	Dec. 1	Nov. 21
* Pre-Imbolg	Jan. 21	Jan. 10
Pre-Beltaine	April 1	Mar. 21
Pre-Litha	June 1	May 21
* Pre-Lammas	July 21	July 10

*There will not be special networking issues. Instead all networking results will be printed in the Pre-Imbolg and the Pre-Lammas issue. Networking sheets will go out with the preceding issue.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Pros, cons, and whys on issues such as:

Pagans and Abortion, Pagans and home schooling, Pagans as Parents: problems and solutions, Pagans and politics, Pagans and ethics. Pagans and Xian bashing, Pagan-ism as "the One True Path", Teaching under-age individuals, Initiation of family members, correct ecological responses to world enviromental crisis, "Criminal" religions, Television and Pagan-bashing.

Let me give you an example: What kind of ethics does a religion have if its tenets come before freedom of speech and it is willing to impose those beliefs on non-members with threats of terrorism and murder? Isn't that religion a 'criminal' religion? What stand should Wiccans and other Pagans take when dealing with that kind of a belief-system? WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Pomegranate Concert... review by Lady Epona.

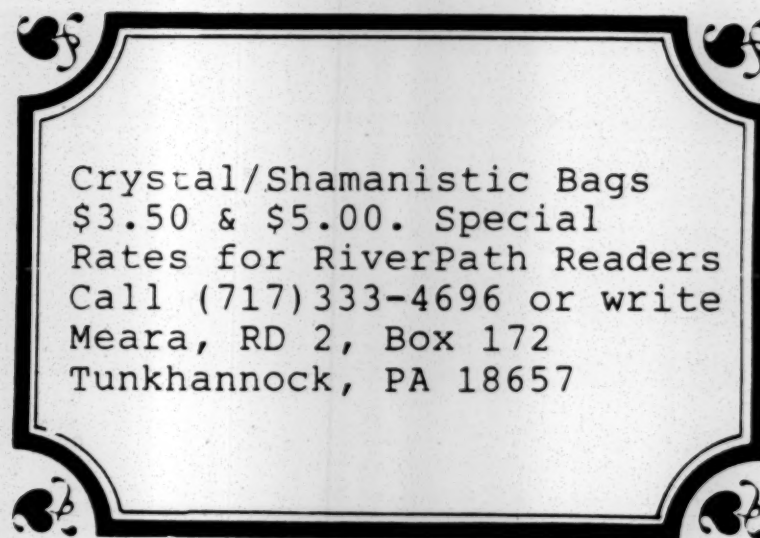
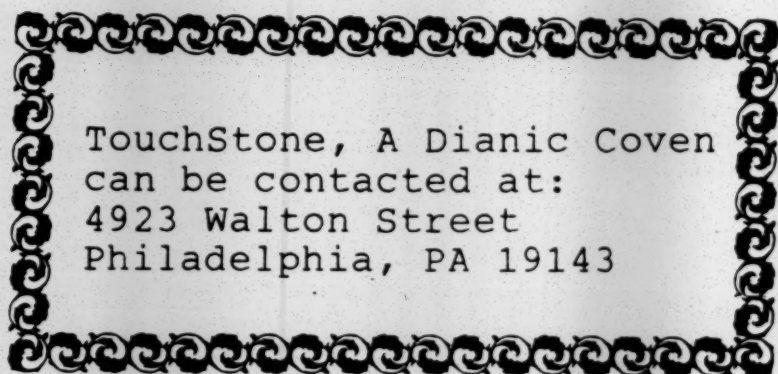
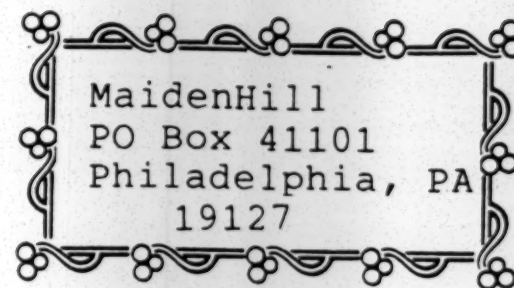
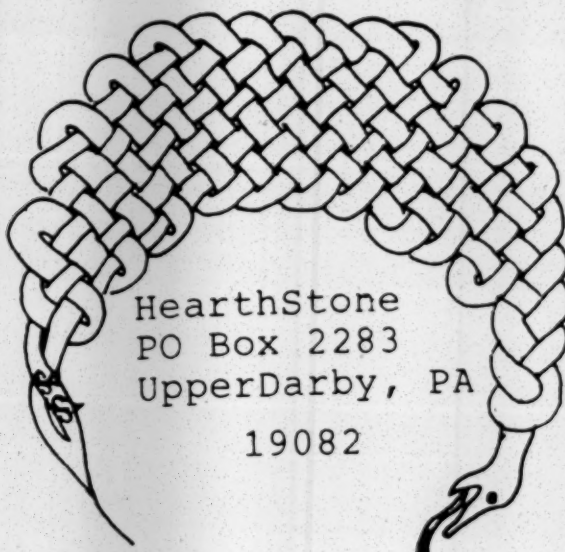
Laney Goodmyn and Barbara Walters did a fantastic job of opening the concert. They got in touch with the audience and set an air of friendship for all. I would like to see more of them in the future.

Pomergrante, a three woman magickal mystery ensemble, had the audience dancing between the pews of church. Their ritual music touched our hearts with love of the Goddess and the chants held us spell-bound. Through their music Her love touched each of us, allowing us to empathize with every person we came into contact with. I would enjoying seening more groups of this nature in our area.

7

Intersections and By-ways on the RiverPath, or
How To Get There From Here

LOCAL COVENS AND GROUPS



entry:

PLEASE NOTE: Address correction for a Networking

Fasc Faun
PO Box 15779
Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

JOURNALS, MAGAZINES AND NEWSLETTERS

Ar nDraiocht Féin: A Druid Fellowship
PO Box 1022, Nyack NY 10960

Those interested in Druidism can contact the ArchDruid Himself, P.E.I. Bonewits at the above address. He may or may not write back. One can never tell with ArchDruids. In any event you can find out how to subscribe.

Almathean Horn
PO Box 5511
Pasadena, California
91117
Monthly, \$15.00

Free Spirit Rising
PO Box 5358
Laurel, MD. 20707
\$8.00 per year

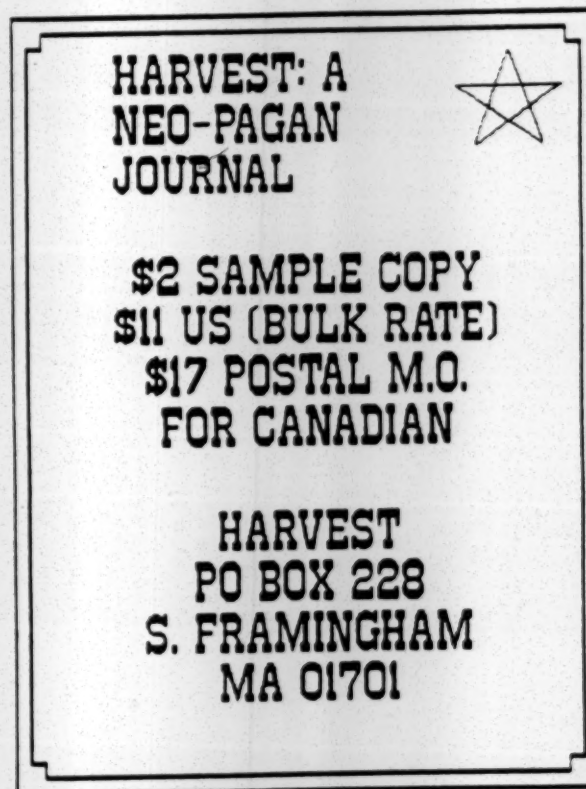
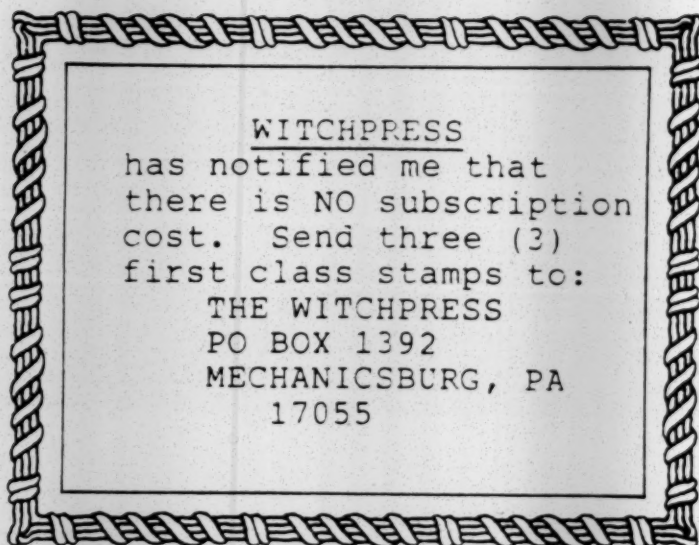
Circle
PO Box 219
Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin
53572
Quarterly, \$9.00

Temple of the Eternal
Light
928 E. Fifth Street
Brooklyn, NY 11230

CAW

These people are SINCERE teachers of Native AmerInd ways. I receive their newsletter and I always find something of inspiration and life-affirmation in it. Someday, My schedule and theirs will mesh and we will get to attend each other's meetings.

2329 Packard Ave.
Huntingdon Valley, PA. 19006
(215) 947-2240



A QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF MAGICK & WITCHCRAFT
\$8.00 / Year PO BOX 624 Monroeville, Pa. 15146



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

Several people have asked me about display ad rates. After a great deal of discussion and thought I have decided for the moment (after all every Witch has the right to change her mind) that the ad rate will be based on the following rule:

Pay what you think it is worth.

We talk alot in the Craft about "Perfect Love and Perfect Trust". This is a place where I am going to try to live by that precept. Send me the ad, tell me how many times you want it to run, and enclose what you feel the ad should cost. Most of the people who have advertised in other journals and newsletters have an idea of what those ads cost and what kind of response those ads brought in. Since one of the redes states that we do not haggle over the price of ritual tools, robes, jewelry etc. I won't haggle over the price of doing that business.

With a new subscription or renewal everyone gets one free 'personal ad' and of course you don't pay for networking ads. There seems to be confusion over the price structure of RiverPath. RiverPath costs \$6.00 per year, for now. Or, \$2.50 if all you want are the issues with the networking results. Some dear souls sent me \$8.50, obviously thinking that the networking issues are in addition to the regular price. Not so. To those of you who did so, your subscription has been extended by six months, since sending you refund checks is not feasible.

So what is the status of your subscription? Look at the upper right hand corner of your mailing lable. The number following the 'x' is how many issues you have received out of the six paid for by your subscription. If you have a '?' that means you have inquired and this is the answer to your question. You won't get another issue, however, unless you subscribe. Some people have other codes, which either mean that you have a 'charter member' subscription (You gave so much money to keep RiverPath afloat I can't bear to charge you) or you paid the above mentioned \$8.50, or something else so arcane that I will carry it to my grave in silence.

THE RIVERPATH
PO Box 544
Horsham, PA 19044

Networking ad-30 words max.

Name: _____

Address: _____

___ 1 year Subscription \$6.00
___ Networking Issues 2.50

Make check or money order payable to RiverPath Network.

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